

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TAGS: PFOR DA UR

SUBJ: FINAL PREPARATIONS FOR SAKHAROV HEARING

REF: COPENHAGEN 3004 (NOTAL), 1128, AND PREVIOUS

SUMMARY: FINAL PREPARATIONS ARE BEING MADE FOR THE "SAKHAROV
HEARING" TO BE HELD HERE OCTOBER 17-19. NEITHER SAKHAROV HIM-

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SELF NOR SOLZHENITSYN IS EXPECTED BUT ABOUT 20 OTHER SOVIET EXILE

"WITNESSES" WILL ATTEND AS WELL AS SOME INTERNATIONALLY-KNOWN INTELLECTUALS WHO WILL SERVE AS A PANEL OF QUESTIONERS. ALL THE DANISH POLITICAL PARTIES, EXCEPT THOSE OF THE FAR LEFT, WILL SEND OBSERVERS TO THE HEARING AND A NUMBER OF WESTERN EMBASSIES HAVE REQUESTED INSTRUCTIONS FROM THEIR FOREIGN OFFICES WHETHER TO DO LIKEWISE. THERE APPARENTLY WILL BE NO OFFICIAL DANISH GOVERNMENT OBSERVER. A PRE-EMPTY "COUNTER-HEARING" SCHEDULED TONIGHT (OCTOBER 15) WILL ATTEMPT TO REFUTE SAKHAROV'S ALLEGATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2 THE FINAL PIECES SEEM TO BE FALLING INTO PLACE FOR THE SO-CALLED SAKHAROV HEARING SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE AT DENMARK'S SEAT OF GOVERNMENT, CHRISTINSBORG PALACE, OCTOBER 17-19. THE HEARING IS SPONSORED BY THE COMMON COMMITTEE OF EAST EXILES IN DENMARK. MOST OF THE FOLLOWING ROUNDUP IS BASED ON PRESS ACCOUNTS.

3. INTEREST IN THE HEARING HAS BEEN STIMULATED BY THE AWARD OF THE NOBEL PRIZE TO SAKHAROV. AROUND 130 FOREIGN JOURNALISTS AND THREE TV NETS ARE EXPECTED TO COVER THE PROCEEDINGS. MANY, IF NOT ALL, OF THE EMBASSIES HERE HAVE RECEIVED INVITATIONS ASKING THAT ONE OFFICIAL OBSERVER BE NAMED WHO WOULD BE DOCUMENTED BY A PHOTOGRAPH BECAUSE OF THE CONCERN BY THE SPONSORS FOR SECURITY AT THE SESSIONS. MOST WESTERN EUROPEAN EMBASSIES HAVE REQUESTED INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING PARTICIPATION. AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL HAS REPORTEDLY CANCELLED ITS PARTICIPATION BECAUSE IT DOES NOT WISH TO BE IDENTIFIED WITH A HEARING CONCERNING CONDITIONS IN ONLY ONE COUNTRY.

4. ABOUT 20 WITNESSES ARE EXPECTED, ALMOST ALL OF THEM SOVIET INTELLECTUALS IN EXILE. SAKHAROV IS NOT EXPECTED TO APPEAR. SOLZHENITSYN, WHO WAS ALSO INVITED, HAS WRITTEN FROM SWITZERLAND THAT HE IS "TOO BUSY" ON A NEW BOOK. THE SPELLING OF THE NAMES OF THE FOLLOWING "WITNESSES" MENTIONED RECENTLY IS AS IT APPEARED IN THE DANISH PRESS: ANDRE SINHAVSKI" AUTHOR VLADIMIR MAXIMOV (NOW CHIEF EDITOR OF THE FRENCH PERIODICAL CONTINENT); BORIS SHAGRIN; AUTHOR ALEKSANDER GATLICH; ALEXANDER VARDY (FORMER SOVIET CONCENTRATION CAMP PRISONER); MATHEMATICIAN DIMITRI PANINE (NOW LIVING IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SWITZERLAND); ABRAHAM SHIFRIN (NOW LIVING IN ISRAEL, WHO REPORTEDLY WILL SHOW MOTION PICTURES TAKEN IN THE CAMP).

5. IN ADDITION TO POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR ERLING BJOL (THE ONLY DANE), THE FOLLOWING ARE EXPECTED TO BE AMONG MEMBERS OF A "QUESTIONING PANEL": SIMON WEISENTHAL, AUSTRIA; EUGENE IONESCO, FRANCE; PROF S. SWIZNIEWICZ, ENGLAND; VICTOR SPARRE, NORWAY; HAAKON LIE, NORWAY; DR. CORNELIA

GERSTENMATER, GERMANY; DR. PHIL. LESZEK KOLAKOWSKI,
ENGLAND; PROF. MICHAEL BORDEAUX, ENGLAND.

6. THE COMMUNISTS, THE LEFT SOCIALISTS AND THE SOCIALIST
PEOPLES PARTY, AS WELL AS MOGENS GLISTRUP'S PROGRESSIVE
PARTY, HAVE TURNED DOWN INVITATIONS. (GLISTRUP REPORTEDLY
DEMURRED ON THE GROUND THAT HIS PARTY IS NOT INTERESTED
IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS). THE PRESIDUM OF THE DANISH
FOLKETING (PARLIAMENT) HAS ALSO
DECLINED AND THERE APPARENTLY WILL BE NO OBSERVER FROM
THE DANISH GOVERNMENT AS SUCH. THE CONSERVATIVES, THE
CHRISTIANS, THE CENTER DEMOCRATS AND THE RADICALS HAVE
ALL NAMED REPRESENTATIVES, AS HAVE THE TWO LARGEST
PARTIES REPRESENTED IN FOLKETING, THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS
AND THE LIBERALS.

7. THE MOST RECENT DANISH EDITORIAL REACTION TO THE
PROPOSED HEARING HAS BEEN MIXED. BERLINGSKE TIDENDE
(INDEPENDENT CONSERVATIVE), WHICH HAS SUPPORTED THE
HEARING, IN AN EDITORIAL COMMENTING ON SAKHAROV'S RE-
CEIVING THE NOBEL PRIZE, SAID THAT THE SOVIETS "FEEL THAT
THEIR SYSTEM MUST BE INFALLIBLE AND THAT THOSE CRITICIZING
IT HAVE TO BE ISOLATED, LOCKED UP AND SILENCED". POLITIKEN
(LEFT OF CENTER) EDITORIALIZED THAT THERE WAS EVERY REASON
TO HAVE THIS HEARING AS IT IS CONCERNED WITH A GREAT POWER
WITH A CLOSED SOCIETY. THE EFFECT OF THE HEARING, HOWEVER,
IS RAISED BY THE POLITIKEN EDITORIAL WRITER. "THE QUESTION
IS WHETHER IT MAY HARM FURTHER LIBERALIZATION IN THE SOVIET
UNION. IF IT HARMS THIS LIBERALIZATION, THE HEARING SHOULD
NOT BE HELD".

8. INFORMATION (LEFT INTELLECTUAL) WARNED THAT PERHAPS
SAKHAROV'S MOTIVES ARE BEING EXPLOITED BY THE SPONSORS OF
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THE HEARING WHOM THEY DESCRIBE AS HAVING CLEARLY ANTI-
COMMUNIST AND ANTI-SOCIALIST AIMS.

9. THE FINAL REPORT OF THE HEARING WILL BE SENT TO THE
COUNCIL OF EUROPE, THE UN, THE EUROPEAN HUMAN RIGHTS
COMMISSION, AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, AND TO "ALL WEST
AND EAST EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS".

10. IN THE MEANTIME, THE DANISH-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY
(LANDSFÖRENINGEN DANMARK-SOVJETUNIONEN) HAS SCHEDULED A
COUNTER-HEARING TONIGHT (OCTOBER 15) AT A PUBLIC HALL IN
COPENHAGEN. A NUMBER OF "WELL KNOWN" SOVIET SCIENTISTS
AND INTELLECTUALS WILL ADDRESS THEMSELVES TO THE QUESTION,
"IS SAKHAROV CORRECT IN HIS CRITICISM OF THE SOVIET UNION?"
THE LEADER OF THE PANEL WILL BE DOCTOR OF LAWS SAMUEL

ZIEVS. AMONG THOSE EXPECTED TO TESTIFY ARE PHYSICIST BENZION WUL; PSYCHIATRIST RUBEN NADJOROV; PHYSICIAN FJODOR SUPRONOV; REPRESENTING THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH, N. M. GUNDASAJEV; AND THE CHIEF RABBI OF THE MOSCOW SYNAGOGUE, M. J. TANDEITNIK.

11. THE COUNTER-HEARING GROUP ARRIVED YESTERDAY AND HELD A WELL-ATTENDED PRESS CONFERENCE WHERE ZIEVS CHARACTERIZED THE SAKHAROV HEARING AS CONTRARY TO HELSINKI (CSCE) AND AS "WORKING AGAINST PEACEFUL E-W COEXISTENCE." WUL CALLED SAKHAROV A "PATHOLOGICAL CASE".
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